Activity 1
Statistics! Give it a Try

Activity focus
In this quick introduction to data and statistics, students will watch the NRL Footy Stats introductory video and talk about how data and statistics are used in NRL and everyday life.

What you will need
- Internet access
- NRL Footy Stats video
- Whiteboard/paper and markers

Statistical concepts
Data, statistics

Activity instructions
- Watch the introductory video and discuss why the NRL player in the video thinks statistics are important.
- Ask students to think about the **data** and **statistics** that are collected by the NRL clubs (i.e. the match statistics).
- Discuss as a group how these data could be used and who might use them (i.e. coach, sports reporters).
- Show a print-out of the NRL Telstra Premiership league ladder and discuss what the numbers are telling us.
- Discuss examples of other data and statistics which are collected and used in everyday life.

Additional information
- To reinforce the concept of numeric and non-numeric data and statistics see the ABS Statistical Language web pages: **www.abs.gov.au/statlanguage**
- Definitions are provided in the Facilitator Guide and are also available on the ABS Statistical Language web pages.

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Teacher's answers

Who uses these statistics?

The NRL for determining rank and eligibility for finals.

Broadcasters and sports fans for tipping. Teams playing well will be at the top of the ladder and teams not playing as well will be lower on the ladder. Matches between higher ranked teams tend to have a bigger audience than matches between middle and lower ranked teams.

What statistics are collected and why?

Columns:

P = The number of games played

Points = Teams are allocated points for games won, lost or drawn
2 points for a win or bye, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss

W = The number of matches a team has won in the season

D = The number of matches a team has drawn in a season

L = The number of matches a team has lost in a season

B = The number of byes a team has in a season

F = The points that the team has scored in a season

A = The points that have been scored against the team in a season

PD = Points a team has scored minus the points scored against the team in a season
Used for separating teams on the same number of competition points

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Teacher's answers

Who uses these statistics?

This sheet is used is to summarise and compare the important events in a match.
It is a quick way to see the main events in the match and compare the 2 teams.

What statistics are collected and why?

Score	The final total score of the match used to determine the winner and loser
Tries	The grounding of a ball in an opponent's in-goal
Conversions	The number of goals kicked after a try
Field goals	The number of scoring kicks from general play
Sin bins	The name of players who are sent off for 10 minutes
Send offs	The name of players who are sent off Their team plays down a player for the rest of the game
Penalties	The number of penalties awarded against the team
Penalty goals	The number of successful penalty goals scored
Scrums	The number of scrums won by each side
Sets	The number of groups of 6 tackles undertaken by the attacking team
Completions / sets	The proportion of times in possession that a team keeps the ball for a full set of 6 tackles
All runs	The cumulative distance that players in one team run in possession of the ball
Line break	When an attacking player breaks through the line of defence
Tackles	The number of times an attacking player in possession of the ball is held by the defending team
Missed tackles	The number of tackles that are not made
Off load	The number of passes made while the possessing player is being tackled
Errors	The number of errors a team makes that cause a turnover or penalty
All runs (m)	The distance in metres that all players run in a forward direction